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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/090,179	03/04/2002	Steven R. Lindsey	2828-5029US	4746

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MORRISS O'BRYANT COMPAGNI, P.C.  
136 SOUTH MAIN STREET  
SUITE 700  
SALT LAKE CITY, UT 84101

EXAMINER
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NGUYEN, BINH QUOC

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2664

DATE MAILED: 10/17/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/090,179

Applicant(s)

LINDSEY ET AL.

Examiner

Binh Q. Nguyen

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 03 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03/04/2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 03/04/2002.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims **1-14** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by *Moon et al* the US Patent No.: 5,901,341 hereinafter referred to as *Moon*.

**Regarding claim 1;** *Moon* teaches a media network station (*see Fig. 2*), comprising:

a media transceiver (*see Fig. 2, anyone of items 104, 110, 116, 122, 128*) configured for sending and receiving media signals over a media bus (*see Fig. 2&3, col. 6, line 51-to-col. 7, line 21, item 164 MVIP BUS means a media bus*);

a data transceiver (*see Fig. 2, anyone of items 104, 110, 116, 122, 128 is also meaning a data transceiver*) for sending and receiving control signals over a control bus (*see Fig. 2&3, col. 6, line 51-to-col. 7, line 21, item "164 MVIP BUS for data transceiver" also means a control bus (see more on col. 3, lines 42-58)*); and

a processor (*see Fig. 2 item 88, col. 5, line 56-to-col. 10, line 63*) in communication with said media transceiver and said data transceiver for arbitrating transmission and reception of said media signals based on said control signals and preventing media signal collisions from occurring on said media bus (*see Fig. 2-8, col. 10, lines 27-35*).

**Regarding claim 2.** *Moon* teaches the media network station according to claim 1, further comprising a switchable media bus termination network between said media transceiver and said media bus for balancing transmissions on said media bus (*see Fig. 4, col. 7, line 65-to-col. 8, line 36*).

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**Regarding claim 3.** *Moon* teaches the media network station according to claim 1, further comprising a switchable control bus termination network (*see Fig. 4, col. 7, line 65-to-col. 8, line 36*) between said data transceiver and said control bus for balancing transmissions over said control bus (*see Fig. 2&3, col. 6, line 51-to-col. 7, line 21, item "164 MVIP BUS for data transceiver" also means a control bus (see more on col. 3, lines 42-58)*).

**Regarding claim 4.** *Moon* teaches the media network station according to claim 1, further comprising a media output connection in communication with said media transceiver (*see Fig. 2, col. 6, lines 20-29, when transmitting means output connection*) for interconnecting received media signals with an external media device (*see Fig. 8, col. 9, line 59-to-col. 10, line 16*).

**Regarding claim 5.** *Moon* teaches the media network station according to claim 1, further comprising a media input connection in communication with said media transceiver (*see Fig. 2, col. 6, lines 20-29, when receiving means input connection*) for interconnecting an external media device with said media transceiver for media signal transmission over said media bus (*see Fig. 8, col. 9, line 59-to-col. 10, line 16*).

**Regarding claim 6.** *Moon* teaches the media network station according to claim 1, further comprising a memory device in communication with said processor for storing computer instructions executable by said processor (*see Fig. 2-8, col. 10, lines 27-46*), said computer instructions implementing a method of switching arbitration to prevent said media signal collisions from occurring on said media bus (*see Fig. 2-8, col. 10, lines 27-35*).

**Regarding claim 7.** *Moon* teaches a digital media network system (*see Fig. 2*), comprising:

a media bus (*see Fig. 2&3, col. 6, line 51-to-col. 7, line 21, item 164 MVIP BUS means a media bus*);

a control bus (*see Fig. 2&3, col. 6, line 51-to-col. 7, line 21, item "164 MVIP BUS for data transceiver" also means a control bus (see more on col. 3, lines 42-58)*); and

a plurality of media network stations connected to said media bus and said control bus (*see Fig. 1 & 2, col. 5, 35-66*),

each digital media network station comprising:

a media transceiver (*see Fig. 2, anyone of items 104, 110, 116, 122, 128*) configured for sending and receiving media signals over a media bus(*see Fig. 2&3, col. 6, line 51-to-col. 7, line 21, item 164 MVIP BUS means a media bus*);

a data transceiver (*see Fig. 2, anyone of items 104, 110, 116, 122, 128 is also meaning a data transceiver*) for sending and receiving control signals over a control bus (*see Fig. 2&3, col. 6, line 51-to-col. 7, line 21, item "164 MVIP BUS for data transceiver" also means a control bus (see more on col. 3, lines 42-58)*); and

a processor (*see Fig. 2 item 88, col. 5, line 56-to-col. 10, line 6*) in communication with said media transceiver and said data transceiver for arbitrating transmission and reception of said media signals based on said control signals and preventing media signal collisions from occurring on said media bus (*see Fig. 2-8, col. 10, lines 27-35*).

**Regarding claim 8.** The digital media network system of claim 7, wherein each of said plurality digital media network stations further comprises a memory device in communication with said processor for storing computer instructions executable by said processor (*see Fig. 2-8, col. 10, lines 27-46*), said computer instructions implementing a method of switching arbitration preventing said media signal collisions from occurring on said media bus (*see Fig. 2-8, col. 10, lines 27-35*).

**Regarding claim 9.** *Moon* teaches the digital media network system of claim 7, wherein said media bus comprises a signal transmission technology selected from the group consisting of electrical, infra-red, ultrasonic, radio frequency and fiber optic technologies (*see Fig. 1-8, col. 19, lines 57-62*).

10. The digital media network system of claim 7, wherein said media bus comprises a plurality of media buses (*see Fig. 2&3, col. 6, line 51-to-col. 7, line 21, item "164 MVIP BUS connecting to plurality cards" means a plurality media buses*).

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**Regarding claim 11.** *Moon* teaches the method of switching arbitration in a media network system (*see Fig. 2, and see more on the Abstract*), said method comprising:

providing a digital media network system (*see Fig. 1-8*) having a plurality of digital media network stations (*see Fig. 1 & 2, col. 5, 35-66*) in communication with each other over a digital media network bus (*see Fig. 2&3, col. 7, lines 14-21, "the dedicated link equipment 150" means a digital media network bus*),

said digital media network bus comprising:

a digital media bus (*see Fig. 2&3, col. 6, line 51-to-col. 7, line 21, item 164 MVIP BUS means a media bus*); and

a digital control bus (*see Fig. 2&3, col. 6, line 51-to-col. 7, line 21, item "164 MVIP BUS for data transceiver" also means a control bus (see more on col. 3, lines 42-58)*);

one of said plurality of digital media network stations creating a control packet (*see col. 19, lines 46-50*);

said one digital media network station sending said control packet on said digital control bus to all other digital media network stations (*see col. 19, lines 52-56*);

said all other digital media network stations parsing said control packet (*see col. 19, lines 57-62*); and

if said control packet comprises a system-wide broadcast command (*see col. 16, lines 1-16*) and there is no transmission on said digital media bus, executing said system-wide broadcast command (*see col. 53, lines 19-27*).

**Regarding claim 12.** *Moon* teaches the method according to claim 11, further comprising, if said control packet comprises a media network station-specific command (*see col. 19, lines 52-56*), and there is no transmission on said digital media bus, executing a handshake and said media network station-specific command or else timing out (*see col. 25, line 13-21 and col. 46, lines 26-44*).

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**Regarding claim 13.** *Moon* teaches the method according to claim 12, wherein said executing a handshake (*see col. 25, line 13-21 and col. 46, lines 26-44*) further comprises validating a response to ensure correct processing of said media network station-specific command (*see col. 17, lines 14-22*).

**Regarding claim 14.** *Moon* teaches the method of switching arbitration in a digital media network system (*see Fig. 2, and see more on the Abstract*), said method comprising:

providing said digital media network system including at least three digital media network stations (*see Fig. 1, "50, 52, 54" means three digital media network, col. 3, lines 42-58*)), interconnected by a media bus (*see Fig. 2&3, col. 6, line 51-to-col. 7, line 21, item 164 MVIP BUS means a media bus*) and a control bus (*see Fig. 2&3, col. 6, line 51-to-col. 7, line 21, item "164 MVIP BUS for data transceiver" also means a control bus (see more on col. 3, lines 42-58)*);

one of said at least three digital media network stations monitoring said digital control bus (*see Fig. 2 & 3, col. 9, line 59-to-col. 10, line 16*); and

said one of said at least three digital media network stations transmitting media signals to all other of said at least three digital media network stations if said digital media bus is not being used (*see Fig. 1&3, col. 15, line 66-to-col. 16, line 16*).


***Contact Information***

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Binh Q. Nguyen whose telephone number is 571-272-8563. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F: 9:00 AM - 5:30 PM.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wellington Chin can be reached on 571-272-3134. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Respectfully submitted,

By: 

Binh Q. Nguyen  
Patent Examiner  
10/14/2005

  
WELLINGTON CHIN  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER